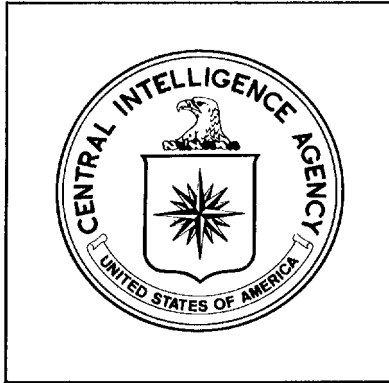


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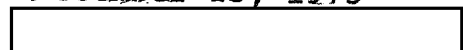
Soviet Union-Eastern Europe

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SOVIET UNION - EASTERN EUROPE

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C O N T E N T S

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Ceausescu Speaks on Foreign Affairs

President Ceausescu's speech to the Romanian parliament last Thursday was his most important foreign policy statement since the eleventh party congress last year. Both the timing and content of the speech, which followed the Warsaw Pact foreign ministers' meeting in Moscow, were clearly intended to dispel any impression that Bucharest has modified its independent policies. The speech reflected Ceausescu's intention to continue slanting Romanian policy and ideology toward the Third World.

Indeed, Ceausescu's rare use of a parliamentary rather than party forum for the speech may have been a subtle way of trying to identify more closely with the nonaligned world. He may also have believed that a review of foreign policy before parliament would be more consistent with the Helsinki guidelines.

Although Ceausescu's speech conveyed an air of confidence and determination, he did not break new ground. Neither did he provide much solace to the Soviets. For example, he reiterated Bucharest's insistence that party relations avoid "dead dogmas" or a "directing center" for the international Communist movement. He urged respect for the diversity of all parties as well as the right of each party to set its own line, singling out for praise "certain Western Communist parties" that have sought new forms to deal with changed conditions. On the European conference of Communist parties, Ceausescu stressed the need for a "democratic meeting" with open debate, free exchanges of ideas in a spirit of mutual respect, and no binding documents.

Ceausescu nonetheless blandly reassured Moscow of Romania's loyalty to CEMA and the Warsaw Pact.

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He asserted that Romania would continue to cooperate with the armies of its allies even after the dissolution of military blocs. With an eye on the Yugoslavs and Chinese, however, he also stressed that Romania will collaborate with the armies of non-Pact socialist countries.

As for CEMA, Ceausescu gave equal weight to bilateral and multilateral economic ties. He called for a reduction in the development gap between CEMA member states and, in an indirect reference to China and Yugoslavia, pointed out that Romania does considerable business with socialist countries outside CEMA.

Ceausescu strongly supported the proposal of Greek Premier Caramanlis for expanded cooperation in the Balkans. Furthermore, he denied that Balkan cooperation was "directed against anyone," i.e., Moscow.

In an unprecedented criticism of the UN, Ceausescu implicitly took issue with the General Assembly resolution denouncing Zionism by saying that some unjust decisions and measures had been adopted that contradict the spirit of the UN Charter. He favored small- and medium-size nations gaining a greater voice in the UN and a revision of the Charter that would reflect the changes in international life over the last 30 years.

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First US-Hungarian Joint Venture Announced

An agreement was signed on December 9 establishing the first US-Hungarian joint venture in Hungary.

Under the agreement, Corning Glass Works, the Hungarian manufacturing firm Radelkis, and the foreign trade organization Metrimpex, formed a joint company--Radelkor, which will manufacture approximately 250 blood analyzers annually. A minimum of 40 percent of the output is to be marketed in Western Europe by Corning's UK subsidiary, and the rest by the Hungarians within CEMA. The machines will retail in the West for approximately \$4,750.

Two years in the making, the agreement represents a major step forward in the Hungarian drive for joint ventures with Western firms that involve advanced Western technology. Corning's equity in the joint firm's \$600,000 capitalization will be 49 percent, contributed primarily in the form of know-how and technical assistance. Corning will receive 49 percent of Radelkor's profits.

This is Hungary's third joint venture agreement with the West. The first was with Volvo of Sweden, and the second with Siemens of West Germany, both in July 1974. Faced with large deficits in its trade with the West, Budapest has been eager to import Western technology and thereby improve its competitiveness on Western markets.

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CHRONOLOGY

December 16 USSR signs economic agreements with Hungary and Poland. [REDACTED]

25X1

USSR informs the US that the reference to three Soviets held by the Chinese in a Moscow television broadcast three days ago was not to the three helicopter crewmen captured in March 1974 but to three separate cases "several years ago" of wandering across the border. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Grishin returns to Moscow from his lengthy, largely unsuccessful, stay in Egypt. [REDACTED]

25X1

Cambodian leader Sihanouk begins a state visit to Yugoslavia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Warsaw Pact foreign ministers complete a two-day meeting in Moscow, their first such gathering since early 1973; the communique is routine. [REDACTED]

25X1

The "working group" drafting a final document for the European Communist party conference convenes in East Berlin; the CPSU is represented by Ponomarev's deputy Zagladin. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

Izvestia prints a negative commentary on President Ford's "Pacific Doctrine." [REDACTED]

25X1

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25X1

25X1

December 17 The First Cuban Communist party congress opens a six-day session in Havana; Soviet senior ideologist Suslov leads the CPSU's delegation. Other prominent East European attendees include Bulgarian party/state chief Zhivkov, Hungarian party leader Kadar, and Polish President Jablonski. [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED]

A signed commentary in *Pravda* restates Soviet opposition to efforts to secure the release of Rudolf Hess from Spandau prison in West Berlin. [REDACTED]

25X1

USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation announces the extension of a credit line of \$25.3 million to Poland to finance the purchase of US wheat. [REDACTED]

25X1

Banking sources in Switzerland disclose Soviet plans to market 100,000 gold coins in the West. [REDACTED]

25X1

US-Soviet negotiations at Moscow on peaceful nuclear explosions within a threshold test ban recess from today to a date in January yet to be determined. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet bloc delegates leave the final session of the UN General Assembly in protest against US Ambassador Moynihan's quotation of Soviet dissident Andrey Sakharov. [REDACTED]

25X1

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December 18 President Podgorny confers with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Escovar, who also signs a cultural and technical cooperation agreement. [REDACTED]

US and the USSR agree to a six-year extension of the agreement on maritime grain-shipping effective January 1, guaranteeing US-flag vessels carriage of at least one third of US grain shipped to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

A *Pravda* commentary charges the US with recruiting mercenaries "to commit new My Lai's" in Angola. [REDACTED]

25X1

Deputy Premier Mazurov confers with visiting Greek Merchant Marine Minister Papandongonas. [REDACTED]

25X1

SALT negotiators in Geneva declare a holiday recess from today to January 12. [REDACTED]

25X1

MBFR negotiators in Vienna declare a recess for the holidays. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romania's Grand National Assembly convenes in Bucharest for a two-day meeting. [REDACTED]

25X1

Bangladesh "special envoy" Husain completes a three-day, official visit to the USSR and returns to Dacca. [REDACTED]

GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Nier has an acrimonious exchange with FRG representative to East Berlin Gaus on the "forced adoptions" issue raised recently by *Der Spiegel*. [REDACTED]

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December 18 USSR and North Vietnam sign in Moscow an agreement to govern Soviet assistance to Hanoi during the 1976-80 period. [REDACTED]

25X1

Polish Sejm (parliament) establishes a special commission to review suggested changes in the national constitution. [REDACTED]

25X1

An agreement is signed in Prague for the delivery of over 16 million tons of Soviet petroleum to Czechoslovakia during 1976, the largest single trading agreement in bilateral relations. [REDACTED]

25X1

USSR gives the US a diplomatic note on the prospects for resuming the Middle East peace conference at Geneva; the note is intransigent in its support of PLO representation from the opening of the conference, but accepts the US proposal for bilateral consultations on the subject. [REDACTED]

25X1

China and Romania sign, in Peking, a scientific cooperation agreement to be in force through December 31, 1976. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]

Suslov addresses the Cuban party congress in Havana, the first foreign dignitary to do so. [REDACTED]

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December 19 *Pravda* prints an authoritative
"Observer" article strongly supporting
the MPLA. [REDACTED]

25X1

A Croat official informs the US of
the arrest of a Soviet citizen on
espionage charges and indicates that
Soviet consular officials in Zagreb
may be implicated. [REDACTED]

25X1

Brezhnev marks his 69th birthday.
[REDACTED]

25X1

FRG and the GDR sign, in East Berlin,
a package deal improving transit be-
tween West Germany and West Berlin. [REDACTED]

25X1

Prominent Soviet dissident writer
Amalrik is arrested in Moscow for
the third time in three months on
charges of lacking permission to live
in the capital. [REDACTED]

25X1

A fedayeen delegation completes eight
days in the USSR at the invitation
of the Communist-front Afro-Asian
Solidarity Committee. [REDACTED]

25X1

December 20 Sao Tome and Principe President
Pinto da Costa completes a five-day,
state visit to Romania. [REDACTED]

25X1

Yelena Sakharov flies home to
Moscow from Western Europe on the
final day her Soviet visa for medical
treatment was valid. [REDACTED]

25X1

Soviet economic aid specialist
Skachkov begins an official visit
to Iraq. [REDACTED]

25X1

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25X1

December 20 Suslov confers in Havana with Hungarian party chief Kadar; Kadar also meets with French Communist Party leader Marchais. [REDACTED]

25X1

Radio Moscow terms yesterday's remarks by President Ford on Soviet policy toward Angola "unfriendly."

25X1

December 21 Somali deputy CinC Fadil goes to the USSR for an official visit. [REDACTED]

25X1

Cuban Premier Castro confers with Suslov and other members of the visiting CPSU delegation. [REDACTED]

25X1

A second Soviet Osa-II class guided-missile patrol boat is delivered to Somalia. [REDACTED]

25X1

Tass, in covering President Ford's news conference remarks of yesterday, cites his admission of US covert actions in Angola but does not report his remarks concerning Soviet and Cuban actions there. [REDACTED]

25X1

December 22 Thailand grants the USSR permission to airlift "essential goods"--12 tons of foodstuffs and fuel conveyed by an AN-12--to the Soviet embassy in Laos; this relief aid is expected to be flown daily to Vientiane. [REDACTED]

25X1

Hungarian Foreign Minister Puja begins an official visit to the USSR and is honored at a dinner given by Foreign Minister Gromyko. [REDACTED]

25X1

Former Jordanian Prime Minister Rifai begins an official visit to the USSR. [REDACTED]

25X1

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25X1

25X1

December 23 Ranking Soviet and East European delegates to the Cuban party congress, which ended yesterday, fly home. [REDACTED]

25X1

FUTURE EVENTS

December 24 UK chief rabbi Jakobivits to complete a ten-day, official visit to the USSR, the first by the chief rabbi of a Western state. [REDACTED]

25X1

December 25 Soviets' TU-144 SST to begin regular service on its first route, Moscow to and from Alma-Ata. [REDACTED]

25X1

December 26 Premier Kosygin to begin a five-day, official visit to Turkey that will include ceremonies opening the Soviet-assisted Iskenderun steel complex. [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED]

25X1

January 1 GDR-FRG health agreement to enter into force. [REDACTED]

25X1

Romania to begin a two-year term as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council, taking the seat now occupied by the Belorussian SSR.

[REDACTED]
USSR to impose a 56 MPH speed limit, the first such highway control in Soviet history. [REDACTED]

25X1

Czechoslovakia to lift its ban on permanent representation there for foreign firms; the ban had been instituted just after the republic was taken over by the Communists.

[REDACTED]

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25X1

25X1

25X1

25X1

January 1 A new Soviet internal passport system to be implemented. [REDACTED] 25X1

A new Polish tariff to enter into effect. [REDACTED] 25X1

USSR's "financial aid tax" on remittances from abroad to enter into effect. [REDACTED] 25X1

US-Soviet income tax convention to enter into effect. [REDACTED] 25X1

January 9 Foreign Minister Gromyko to begin an official visit to Japan expected to last four or five days. [REDACTED] 25X1

January 12 SALT negotiators to resume their discussions at Geneva. [REDACTED] 25X1

UN Security Council to resume debate on Middle East issues. [REDACTED] 25X1

mid-January A PLO delegation led by "Foreign Minister" Qaddumi to go to Moscow on official business. [REDACTED] 25X1

January 20 Lithuanian Communist Party and Armenian Communist party congresses to convene. [REDACTED] 25X1

January 22 Georgian Communist Party congress to convene. [REDACTED] 25X1

January 23 Turkmen Communist Party congress to convene. [REDACTED] 25X1

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